[10191/2234]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#4/

Applicant(s)

Karl FRAUHAMMER et al.

Serial No.

To Be Assigned

Filed

Herewith

For

SNAP RING

Art Unit

To Be Assigned

Examiner

To Be Assigned

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND 37 C.F.R. § 1.125 SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION STATEMENT

SIR:

Please amend without prejudice the above-identified application before examination, as set forth below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION AND ABSTRACT:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3), a Substitute Specification (including the Abstract, but without claims) accompanies this response. It is respectfully requested that the Substitute Specification (including Abstract) be entered to replace the Specification of record.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Without prejudice, please cancel original claims 1 to 9. Please also cancel claim 1 in the annex to the International Preliminary Examination Report, and add new claims 10 to 16 as follows:

sab Bi>

10. (New) A snap ring for shafts or bores fixable in axial position by snapping into a circumferential groove, the snap ring comprising:

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